

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 09955 041146Z

42

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15

STR-04 CEA-01 L-03 /088 W
----- 047825

R 041105Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9388

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 9955

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, PFOR, KN, IR

SUBJ: IRAN/NORTH KOREA TRADE CREDIT AGREEMENT

REF: TEHRAN 9522

1. ECONOFF MET WITH MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN LOANS, REZA KHALEGHI-ROD, OCTOBER 4 AND PROVIDED VERBALLY MOST CURRENT AVAILABLE NORTH KOREAN EXTERNAL DEBT AND ARREARAGES DATA AS HE REQUESTED(PAR 2,REFTEL). KHALEGHI-ROD SAID HE WOULD PASS THE INFORMATION TO MEAF UNDERSECRETARY ASHRAFI. HE WAS ASSURED, RELATIVE TO A POTENTIAL REQUEST HE ENVISAGED, THAT SHOULD HIGHER MEAF OFFICIALS REQUEST SIMILAR INFORMATION FROM THE AMBASSADOR WE WOULD RESPOND AS POSITIVELY AS POSSIBLE. IN COMMENTING ON THE DETAILED DATA PROVIDED,ECONOFF OPINED THAT IF COUNTRIES WITH WELL ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC AND TRADE RELATIONS WITH THE DPRK, SUCH AS SWEDEN, WERE FAIRING BADLY IN EVEN RESCHEDULED DEBT COLLECTION, THE GOI'S PROSPECTS WOULD NOT APPEAR BRIGHT. KHALEGHI-ROD COMMENTED THAT HE PERSONALLY DID NOT WANT TO SEE IRAN JOIN THE LONE OF UN-SATISFIED CREDITORS.

2. KHALEGHI-ROD EXPANDED BEYOND THAT REPORTED IN REFTEL CONCERNING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEHRAN 09955 041146Z

THE DPRK PRESSURES ON THE GOI FOR CREDITS. HE SAID THAT, IN FACT,

THE CREDIT AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED "ABOUT JULY" IN 1975. IN THE EARLY MONTHS, AS REPORTED BY EMBASSY, THE GOI WAS ABLE TO DEFER ON ANY DISBURSEMENTS BECAUSE OF LEGITIMATE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE MERCHANDISE CONTRACTS PROFFERED BY THE NORTH KOREANS. AFTER THAT ISSUE WAS MORE OR LESS SETTLED, ABOUT THE END OF 1975, THE DPRK BEGAN PRESSURING THE GOI FOR DISBURSEMENT AT ALL LEVELS--MEAF INCLUDING MINISTER ANSARY, THE MFA HERE AND THROUGH THE IRANIAN EMBASSY IN PEKING AND ULTIMATELY, THE SHAH. ALTHOUGH KHALEGHI-ROD HAS MOST RECENTLY RESPONDED TO DPRK EMBASSY PRESSURE BY SAYING THE THE GOI COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS NOT YET VALIDATED THE CREDIT AGREEMENT, THIS IS NOT THE CASE. HE SAID THERE IS NO LEGAL IMPEDIMENT TO DISBURSEMENT.

3. DURING THE OCTOBER 3, SOUTH KOREAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION, ECONOFF DISCUSSED WITH SOUTH KOREAN EMBASSY COUNSELOR JOUN-YUNG SUN THE SUBJECT PRE-IMPORT CREDIT. SUN EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT CREDIT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN SIGNED. HE SAID HIS EMBASSY HAD CONCLUDED THAT THE ISSUE WAS DEAD. WHEN ASKED IF HIS EMBASSY WAS PROVIDING THE GOI WITH ANY INFORMATION OF THE NORTH KOREAN DEBT, HE SAID YES, MOST RECENTLY IN JUNE AND TO MEAF UNDERSECRETARY, INTERNATIONAL, JAVAD VAFA(COMMENT: VAFA, DESPITE HIS TITLE, IS NOT IN THE FOREIGN CREDITS PICTURE.) SUN SAID THAT HIS EMBASSY KNEW THAT THE DPRK AMBASSADOR HAD BEEN WITH COURT MINISTER ALAM FOR ONE HOUR THAT MORNING AND HIS EMBASSY WAS AT A LOSS AS TO WHY AN APPOINTMENT AT THAT LEVEL OCCURRED. SUN SAID HIS GOVERNMENT IS MYSTIFIED CONCERNING THE GOI MOTIVES FOR INTENDED OR ACTUAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO NORTH KOREA.

HELMS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TEHRAN09955
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760373-1042
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761083/aaaacutk.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 TEHRAN 9522
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRAN/NORTH KOREA TRADE CREDIT AGREEMENT
TAGS: EFIN, EAID, PFOR, KN, IR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006